

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

J. CHAOUACHI et al.

NL 000720

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

Title: WATER KETTLE, AND PARTICLE CATCHER/FILTER ASSEMBLY FOR
SAID KETTLE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please
amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

5. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 2, wherein the
filter (8; 38; 68) has a filter passage (16) with a given total
width, and wherein the inlet (11) of the particle catcher (9; 39;
69) is wider than said given total width of the filter passage
(16).

6. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one guide (19; 49; 79; 139) above the inlet (11; 101; 131) of the particle catcher (9; 39; 69; 99; 129).
7. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 2, wherein the guide is situated inward of the filter (8; 38; 68).
8. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 6, wherein the guide comprises at least one guiding blade (19; 49; 139) which, with the water kettle in an upright position, extends from top to bottom in an obliquely sloping outward direction towards a region situated above the inlet (11; 131).
9. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 6, further comprising at least two individual guides (19; 49; 139), one situated at least partly above the other, when the water kettle is in the upright position.
10. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 2, wherein the filter (8) and the particle catcher (9) form part of an assembly (21; 71) which can be taken from the receptacle (1), and wherein a wall portion (22) of the particle catcher (9) is displaceable with

respect to the filter (8) so as to provide a passage (23) in the particle catcher (9) other than the inlet (11).

12. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a lid (65) which is provided with a recess through which said assembly (71) can be taken out and which is substantially filled up by said assembly (71) in the operational state for closing off an upper side of the kettle.

13. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 1, comprising at least two said particle catchers (129), each integrated with guiding blades (139), which guiding blades (139) are situated one above the other and define channels (149) which have a bend or corner in a central particle catcher portion (129), said central particle catcher portion (129) at the same time forming a lowermost portion of the channel (149).

14. (amended) An assembly (21) of a particle catcher (9) and a filter (8) for use in a water kettle as claimed in claim 1.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the claims were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to

avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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APPENDIX

5. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 2 to 4~~claim 2, wherein the filter (8; 38; 68) has a filter passage (16) with a given total width, and wherein the inlet (11) of the particle catcher (9; 39; 69) is wider than said given total width of the filter passage (16).

6. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, further comprising at least one guide (19; 49; 79; 139) above the inlet (11; 101; 131) of the particle catcher (9; 39; 69; 99; 129).

7. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 2 to 5 and claim 6~~claim 2, wherein the guide is situated inward of the filter (8; 38; 68).

8. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the guide comprises at least one guiding blade (19; 49; 139) which, with the water kettle in an upright position, extends from top to bottom in an obliquely sloping outward direction towards a region situated above the inlet (11; 131).

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9. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 6 to 8~~claim 6, further comprising at least two individual guides (19; 49; 139), one situated at least partly above the other, when the water kettle is in the upright position.

10. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~at least one of the claims 2 to 5~~claim 2, wherein the filter (8) and the particle catcher (9) form part of an assembly (21; 71) which can be taken from the receptacle (1), and wherein a wall portion (22) of the particle catcher (9) is displaceable with respect to the filter (8) so as to provide a passage (23) in the particle catcher (9) other than the inlet (11).

12. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~claim 11 or 12~~, further comprising a lid (65) which is provided with a recess through which said assembly (71) can be taken out and which is substantially filled up by said assembly (71) in the operational state for closing off an upper side of the kettle.

13. (amended) A water kettle as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, comprising at least two said particle catchers (129), each integrated with guiding blades (139), which guiding blades (139) are situated one above the other and define

